

Recd  
5-10-02

## LIFE STORY OF SAMUEL RIESKE JR.

written by Zina M. Rieske ( his wife)

Samuel Rieske Jr. was born December 12, 1896 in Provo, Utah to Samuel Rieske and Babette Schroeder. His father was born in Odessa, Russia ?. He grew up in the Holy Land. His mother was born in Germany. Samuel was their third child.

Sam was a real intelligent boy in school. He graduated from the 8th grade when he was twelve or thirteen. He started high school, but was teased so much about being so little that he quit. His father had a farm in Provo and also a ranch in Provo Canyon. Sam was placed in charge of the ranch. He was about 15 years old at the time.

He never had alot of time to play or chase around. He was ambitious and a hard worker. He was honest and never bothered alcoholic drinks and he never smoked. He always led a clean life.

In the summer of 1916 the folks took our family up Provo Canyon camping. We went to the Rieske's ranch and camped in the river bottoms. The camp ground is still there just below Deer Creek Dam. That's when I really met Sam and liked him alot. After that is when we started go go with each other. He just got to Provo about twice a month wo we didn't get to serious.

When World War I started in 1914 he boys had to register for the service. Sam's father tried to keep him out but it didn't work. He was drafted and went to Camp Kearny in California in the fall of 1917. That winter there was a great flu epidemic and he got the disease in January. The war had ended in the meantime in November 1917. When he recovered his health he was discharged and came home that spring. How glad I was to see such a handsome proud soldier.

We went together about six years all told. We were married at my parent's home June 15, 1921by Bishop B. Walker. Instead of having a honeymoon, we had to go immediately to the ranch and take over as Sam's brother, Oswald had a quarrel with their father and ran away. What a honeymoon that was. I had to cook for 2 hired men, 2 young brothers and a carpenter.

The carpenter was fixing and painting the house so it was a mess. Sam felt real unhappy about it all but couldn't do much about it. I was so glad when the house was fixed up. We never did get a chance to go on a honeymoon.

Our main entertainment was going to Provo shopping and visiting relatives. We went to a movie once in awhile in Provo or Heber. We did go swimming in the Hot Pools at Midway. We didn't get to Church very often on account of the milking and other chores which kept us busy. Anyhow, Sam wasn't too interested in going to Church as his folks never taught him to go. His folks had become bitter against the Church because his mother lost a baby and she blamed the Church for keeping her husband at meetings while she was in labor. She was never very religious. The father was when he was young.

I missed going to Church and we were both getting tired of being tied to the ranch so much that we finally told the folks that it was best to sell the ranch. Sam was interested in becoming a pilot. We lived on the ranch 6 years. I enjoyed the summers and the winters also. We milked 20 cows besides taking care of the horses and pigs. We did have fun taking a swim in the Provo river in the summer.

Our first baby was born May 1, 1922 at my mother's home in Pleasant View, near Provo, Utah. She was a beautiful girl and weighted  $6\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. We had a time finding a suitable name for her. Some wanted us to name her May, but we decided on Zina Dorothy and call her Dorothy.

On September 25, 1923 our son John Samuel was born also at Mother's home. He was a good baby also. His father was so glad to get a boy. He weighed around 7 lbs. Our third child was born January 4, 1927 at Mother's again. (I don't know what we would have done without her.) We named her Beverly Jean and she weighted  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. She was a good baby also.

That summer on July 29th Sam was killed, so she never had the opportunity of knowing her father. He dearly loved her and was so proud of her along with the others.

On that fateful day he had an accident while building a new barn. He fell from the rafters on a saw horse which caused a brain hemorrhage which was fatal. He was buried in the Provo Cemetery.